## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 /058 W

-----070400Z 042284 /22

R 060900Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8218 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI AMCONGEN CALCUTTA

CONFIDENTIAL KATHMANDU 1890

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PINS, PFOR, IN, NP

SUBJ: KOIRALA CASE

REF: KATHMANDU 1818

- 1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS HEARING ON B.P. KOIRALA'S PLEA FOR HABEAS CORPUS WRIT OPENED AT SUPREAME COURT MAY 5. COURT WAS REPORTED ADJOURNED AFTER TWO HOURS HEARING AND WILL RESUME MAY 8 TO CONTINUE ARGUMENT.
- 2. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE EYEWITNESS SOURCE HEARING WAS IN FACT ADJOURNED WITHOUT ARGUMENTS BEING HEARD AFTER AN UNRULY CROWD OF KOIRALA'S SUPPORTERS BROKE DOWN DOORS IN EFFORT TO GAIN ACCESS TO COURTROOM. EMBOFF REPORTED THAT HE SAW APPROXIMATELY 1000 PERSONS WAITING ALONG ROUTE THAT KOIRALA WAS EXPECTECD TO TAKE ON WAY TO COURT, ALTHOUGH IN FACT HE DID NOT APPEAR. GOVERNMENT IS REPORTED TO HAVE DECIDED IN VIEW OF MAY 5 CROWDS THAT KOIRALA WILL NOT BE BROUGHTTO SUBSEQUENT HEARINGS ON WRIT.
- 3. GOVERNMENT IS ALSO REPORTED CONCERNED AT NUMBERS OF PERSONS WHO SHOWED UP AT COURT DESPITE BAD WEATHER, SINCE THIS IS FIRST LARGE SCALE DEOMNSTRATION OF KOIRALA'S CONFIDENTIAL

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POPULARITY IN KATHMANDU. ALTHOUGH POLICE DID NOT MAKE ANY ARRESTS AT COURT MAY 5, SEVERAL CONGRESS PARTY SUPPORTERS ARE SAID TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN RECENT DAYS, INCLUDING HEAD OF WEST GERMAN-NEPALI FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION. PROFESSOR L.S. BARAL OF NEHRU UNIVERSITY NEW DELHI INDICATED TO EMBOFF MAY 5 THAT HE WAS UNDER SEMI-OFFICIAL HOUSE ARREST IN KATHMANDU, ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE THOUGHT

HE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE NEPAL FOR NEW DELHI.

4. POLICE GUARDS HAVE BEEN POSTED AT SEVERAL UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES IN KATHMANDU IN ORDER TO REDUCE POSSIBILITY OF STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN KOIRALA'S FAVOR. LATEST RUMOR HAS IT THAT GOVERNMENT WILL NOW MOVE FOR A QUICK TRIAL, CONVIT KOIRALA UNDER TREASON ACT, SENTENCE TO DEATH BUT GRANT HIM ROYAL PARDON. EAVES

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: KOIRALA CASE TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PINS, PFOR, IN, NP, (KOIRALA, BP)

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